

FACT SHEET

**DRAFT HMWA/RCRA PARTIAL PERMIT
Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP)
Located at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC)
Idaho National Laboratory (INL)
EPA ID NO. ID4890008952**

The purpose of this fact sheet is to set forth the principal facts pertaining to a draft Partial Permit (Permit) that the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is proposing to issue to the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and DOE contractor/operators (Permittee) at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). The Permit will renew the current AMWTP Storage Permit as well as combine the AMWTP Storage and Treatment Permits into one permit. The permit will allow for the operation of mixed waste storage and treatment units at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex (RWMC), located on INL, in Butte, Idaho.

This fact sheet was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Rules and Standards for Hazardous Waste*, IDAPA 58.01.05.000 et seq., specifically, IDAPA 58.01.05.013 [40 CFR §124.8].

A. PURPOSE OF THE PERMITTING PROCESS

The purpose of the permitting process is to design specific administrative and operational requirements under which the Permittee will operate to comply with the Idaho Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1983 (HWMA), as amended, and regulations promulgated there under by DEQ.

DEQ is required to prepare a draft permit that sets forth, in one concise document, all the applicable requirements with which DEQ intends to require the Permittee to comply during the ten (10) year duration of the Partial Permit. The public is given forty-five (45) calendar days to review and comment on the draft permit conditions before DEQ takes any final action (issue or deny) on the Permit. This draft Permit was prepared based upon a Part B Application for storage and treatment units at AMWTP.

B. PROCEDURES FOR REACHING A FINAL DECISION

IDAPA 58.01.05.013 [40 CFR § 124.10] requires that the public be given forty-five (45) calendar days to comment on the draft Permit prepared under the Hazardous Waste Management Act (HWMA). The comment period will begin on 04/04/08, and will end on 05/19/08. Any person interested in commenting on this draft Permit must do so within this forty-five (45) calendar day comment period. The Permit, in its entirety, is open for public comment.

All persons wishing to comment on the proposed Partial Permit must submit the comments in writing to:

*Mr. Robert Bullock
c/o Ms. Jenny Shafer
Waste Management and Remediation Division
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, ID 83706-1255
(208) 373-0502*

Comments should include or identify all reasonable available references, factual grounds, and supporting material. All conditions in this draft Permit are open for public comment.

Opportunity for a public hearing may be provided if signed, written requests, in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.05.013 [40 CFR §124.11], for a hearing are submitted personally or are addressed to the aforementioned and received at or before 5:00 p.m., 05/19/08. Requests for a public hearing shall provide: (1) a clear and concise factual statement of the nature and scope of the interest of the person requesting the hearing; (2) the name and address of all persons whom the requestor represents; (3) a statement of any objections to the proposed action, including specific references to any requirements being addressed; and (4) a statement of the issues which the commenter proposes to raise for consideration at the hearing.

If sufficient public interest is expressed in holding a public hearing, then a formal public hearing will be held. The decision on whether there is sufficient public interest in holding the hearing will be based on the receipt of written comments and requests for a public hearing.

When making the final determination regarding the approval of this Partial Permit, DEQ will consider all written comments received during the public comment period, those received during the public hearing (if held), the requirements of the hazardous waste regulations of IDAPA 58.01.05.000 *et seq.*, and all other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

C. FACILITY/UNIT DESCRIPTION

INL is a large (approximately 890 square miles), DOE-owned facility, co-operated by DOE and various contractors and located in Bingham, Butte, and Jefferson Counties, Idaho. Activities at INL generate a wide variety of hazardous and mixed (both radioactive and hazardous) wastes, which are subject to regulation under HWMA. Hazardous/mixed waste management activities include container storage, tank storage, miscellaneous storage, and a variety of treatment processes. There are approximately 130 units that have been identified for HWMA permit actions.

This draft Partial Permit is for less than the entire facility in that it does not address all of the INL Hazardous Waste Management Units that require hazardous waste permits. This Partial Permit only addresses the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP). The AMWTP operates at the RWMC which is located in the south-western portion of INL and is operated for DOE by the Bechtel BWTX, Idaho, LLC. The AMWTP consists of eight (8) storage modules and one (1) treatment facility permitted for storage, characterization and treatment of mixed waste. The primary purpose of the AMWTP is to characterize and treat, if necessary, existing mixed waste retrieved from the Transuranic Storage Area (TSA) to make it acceptable for shipment to a final disposal facility, such as the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The storage modules were commissioned earlier and operated by a different contractor than the treatment building, therefore separate permits were required. DOE currently owns all of the buildings and the same contractor operates the entire area thus the proposal to combine the two permits into one permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION IN THE PERMIT WITH JUSTIFICATIONS

Special Condition 1: Condition of Containers IDAPA 58.01.05.008 [40 CFR § 264.171]; Containers in the Box Lines of WMF-676 that are being filled with debris waste by remote handled equipment may be damaged during the process, including damage to the lip of the container preventing the lid from properly sealing or metal debris may damage the side of the container while being placed into the container. Once the containers are filled and lidded, they are transferred to the Central Conveyor System/Maintenance Area (Room 147/147D) or the Drum Assay Conveyor Area (Room 126C) until they can be processed in the supercompactor. Due to the radiological hazards in Room 147/147D and 126C, containers with suspect integrity as described above, may be stored in Room 147/147D or 126C for up to seven (7) days without being repaired, overpacked, or transferred to another container that is in good condition. Alternatively, the containers will be inspected daily to ensure that no spills or leakage has occurred, and, if a release does occur, the container will be processed, overpacked, and/or repaired, and spill response will be initiated. Rooms 147/147D and 126C have secondary containment that will contain any leak or spill until the Permittee is able to respond appropriately. All containers with poor integrity that are discovered to contain free liquids will be processed or overpacked upon discovery. Any leaks or spills that may occur are required to be noted in the Operating Record.

Special Condition 2: Special Requirements for Incompatible Waste [40 CFR § 264.177(c)]; The Chemical Compatibility Evaluation Report of the wastes for the AMWTP provided with the permit application identified 14 waste streams as potentially posing compatibility concerns during storage and treatment. The report states that the incompatibility concern exists if free liquids are present in the waste containers associated with the 14 potentially incompatible waste streams. The report assumes that wastes identified as debris, soil, and solidified sludge does not include any free liquids. However, previous characterization of solidified sludge containers has demonstrated that this assumption may not be accurate of the solidified sludge containers. Therefore, a compliance schedule has been included in the permit for the Permittee to demonstrate through real-time radiography (RTR) or visual examination (VE) that the solidified sludge containers associated with the 14 potentially incompatible waste streams do not contain free liquids. If free liquids are discovered during characterization, the Permittee must comply with the requirements for incompatible wastes.

D. CORRECTIVE ACTION DETERMINATION

Idaho Code § 39-4409(5) requires, in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.05.008 [40 CFR § 264.101(a)], the owner/operator of a hazardous waste facility to institute corrective action as necessary to protect human health and the environment for all releases of hazardous wastes and hazardous constituents from any Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) at the facility, regardless of the time at which the waste was placed in such unit, IDAPA 58.01.05.008 [40 CFR Part 264].

On December 9, 1991, DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Idaho, through the Department of Health and Welfare, signed a Federal Facilities Agreement/Consent Order (FFA/CO). Under the FFA/CO, oversight of investigations and corrective action shall be addressed pursuant to Section 120(e)(2) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (a.k.a. CERCLA or "Superfund"), 42 U.S.C. § 9620(e), as amended.

E. PARTIAL PERMIT ORGANIZATION

The Partial Permit is divided into six (6) Modules that reference nine (9) Attachments as follows:

MODULE	TITLE
I	STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS
II	GENERAL FACILITY CONDITIONS
III	CONTAINER STORAGE AND TREATMENT
IV	MISCELLANEOUS UNITS IN WMF-676
V	TREATMENT
VI	CORRECTIVE ACTION

ATTACHMENT	TOPIC
1	FACILITY AND UNIT DESCRIPTIONS
2	FACILITY AND UNIT WASTE ANALYSIS PLAN
3	SECURITY
4	INSPECTION PROCEDURES
5	PERSONNEL TRAINING
6	PREPAREDNESS AND PREVENTION
7	CONTINGENCY PLAN
8	CLOSURE PLAN
9	PERMIT REVISION LOG